

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/557,739

Applicant(s)

GJERSTAD ET AL.

Examiner

Peter J. Smith

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/28/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,6,9 and 12-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: amendment filed 12/28/2005.
2. Claims 1-3, 6, 9, and 12-20 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 6, 9, and 20 are independent claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-3, 6, 9, and 12-20 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Each of the independent claims requires that the invention tracks which input device handler inputs a specified portion of text. This association is maintained by attaching a property to each portion of text entered to track the initial entry of each specified portion. This tracking feature and the use of the tracking feature to identify an input device handler that initially entered a specified portion of text has not been found in the prior art of record by the Examiner. The prior art of Saunders, for example, reserves a portion of text while a particular input device handler is adding, modifying, or deleting text for a specified portion, but the reservation of the text is released after the input device handler is finished adding, modifying, or deleting text in the specified portion. The reservation identifier of Saunders is not persistently associated with each portion of text and therefore the property is not permanent.

Saunders does not teach a common text framework comprising a mechanism to track initial entry of each specified portion of text into a document by each handler and a correction interface that determines a responsible handler that initially entered a specified portion of text as defined in independent claim 1. Saunders does not teach a common

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text framework comprising a mechanism to track initial entry of text into a document owned by an application program by each of a plurality of input device handlers and a correction interface callable by the application program after initial text entry to determine a responsible input device handler as defined in independent claim 6.

Saunders does not teach a common text framework for tracking of the initial entry of text entered into a document by a handler for an input device by a common text framework and returning to the application the identity of a particular handler that was responsible for initially entering a specified text into a document as defined in independent claim 9.

Saunders does not teach a common text framework for tracking text entered during initial text processing into a document by a handler for an input device and returning to the application an identity of a particular handler responsible for entering the specified text into a document during initial processing as defined in independent claim 20. For at least these reasons, the Examiner believes the combination of limitations in the claimed invention is both novel and not obvious over all found prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter J. Smith whose telephone number is 571-272-4101. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PJS
3/14/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Hutton', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

DOUG HUTTON
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECH CENTER 2100